like Jordan produces better and cheaper fertiliser, is there not a need for technological revoltion in this case? And if so, what specific action is the hon. Minister proposing to take in this regard?

SHRI R. PRABHU: The cost of production outside thi country is less than what is in this country. It is because the feedstock prices outside are less than what is there in our country. For example in America, the gas price is only $2 per million BTU, while in this country is is $5 per million BTU. In the Middle East it is only half a dollar per million BTU. So, we cannot really compare the cost of fertiliser produced in this country with the cost of production in other countries. Moreover, the plants abroad are basically old and depreciated. So, there is not really a basis for comparison.

SHRI JAGESH DESSAI: The hon. Minister says because the plants are old, the capacity utilisation is old. I would like to know whether in the Project Report it has been mentioned that after the lapse of a particular number of years, the capacity will be to this extent only. It is shown like that. May I know from the Minister whether the capacity utilisation which is done today is according to what was mentioned in the report? If not, whether a review will be taken and the realistic capacity utilisation fixed and derate this capacity utilisation so that we can get correct picture and monitor it?

SHRI R. PRABHU: Sir, one of the reasons for the low capacity utilisation as I have said earlier was the vintage of the plants. I do not think in a project report it is really mentioned that the capacity utilisation comes down after a few years. But basically we have to take the effective age of the plant. The effective age of the plant is about 15 years and after 15 years I think the specific consumptions do increase and capacity utilisation comes down because of breakdowns and maintenance has to be done. That is why the capacity utilisation comes down.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why not derate?

SHRI R. PRABHU: Sir this is an overall picture and when we fix the retention prices and when the next retention price scheme is being formulated, I think, we will take into account the hon. Member's suggestion.

SHRI P. BABUL REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am glad to find the information furnished by the Minister in his reply that in the field of fertiliser production cooperative sector is showing better performance than the private sector. Sir, in the cooperative field IFFCO is the leader in the production of fertilisers and the cooperative sector production reached 96.9 per cent capacity utilisation. I will add that a few months back the Government on the plea that imported fertiliser is cheapr than indigenously manufactured fertiliser had attempted to ask the IFFCO to stop production. May I know from the Minister whether my information is correct or not?

SHRI R. PRABHU: The Government has not asked the IFFCO to reduce its production.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI P. BABUL REDDY: There was a proposal to stop.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has given a definite answer that the Government has not asked. Next Question.

Shifting of the Delhi Race Club

*327. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will tht Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) wheher Govtrnment propose to shift the Dehi Race Cub from its present site;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) whether any alternative site has since been identified for the purpose; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As soon as an alternative site is selected.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

श्रीमती रत्न कुमारी : सभापति महोदय, नोयडा के नजदीक जो रेस क्लब बनने जा रहा है, उसका क्षेत्रफल कितना होगा, कुल कितनी लागत आयेगी और उस पर काम कब शरू होगा ? साथ ही इस रेस-क्लब में क्या-क्या सुविधाएं उपलब्ध होंगी ?

श्रीमती मोहसिना किदवई : सभापति जी, जैसा मैंने बताया, अभी तो साइट, तय ही नहीं की गयी है, यहां यह रेस-क्लब बनेगा । इसलिए माननीय सदस्या ने जो सवाल किया है, उसका जवाब है ही नहीं ।

श्रीमती रत्न कुमारी : नोयडा में बनाना है, ऐसी अखबारों में खबर है और इसलिए मैंने यह सवाल किया था ?

श्रीमती मोहसिना किदवई : सभापति जी, अखबारों की खबर में तो काफी, हंगामें होते हैं । अखबार की खबर पर कोई तवज्जह नहीं दी जानी चाहिए ।

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Mr. Chairman Sir, I take strong exception to the remarks made by the Minister that all newspaper reports contain lot of hangama.

MR. CHAIRMAN: With honourable exceptions.

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether she would like to disclose what is going to be done with Race Course at present which is being acquired.

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Sir, it was decided in 1975 by the then Prime Minister that the Defence authorities may be allowed to retain 107 acres of land and the Race Course may be shifted from this area. The problem of land is so acute that land is not available in Delhi. That is why we have not yet decided to which side we shoud shift the Race Course.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question.

Ajay Canal Project in Bihar

*328. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Bihar had submitted a proposal for the AJAY CANAL in South Bihar costing Rs. 5 crores fifteen years back;

(b) whether the said proposal still remains pending with the Planning Commission while the cost of the same project has gone upto Rs. 67 crores;

(c) what are the main reasons for not clearing the project which is very essential for the State; and

(d) by when this vital project is likely to be cleared by the Planning Commission?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) The project was received originally at a cost of Rs. 4.31 crores. The clearance has had to be deferred from time to time because of non-compliance of the comments/observations by the State Government. Even now, it is held up for updating of the estimated cost and concurrence of the State Finance Department.

@Previously Starred Question 228, transferred from the 30th April, 1987.